

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MOSCOW 05689 261724Z
ACTION OES-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 ERDA-05 CIAE-00 INR-07
NSAE-00 L-03 FEA-01 INT-05 /040 W
-----270315Z 127448 /15
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FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6705

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DEPT PASS ERDA FOR ACTING ADMINISTRATOR FRI FROM AMBASSADOR

DEPT FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARIES HARTMAN AND MINK

E. O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: TGEN, ENRG, PFOR, US, UR
SUBJECT: US-USSR ENERGY AGREEMENT (08.00)

REFS: STATE 66558, STATE 78051

1. I AM DEEPLY CONCERNED ABOUT THE DECISION NOT TO PROVIDE A CRYOGENIC REFRIGERATOR TO THE SOVIETS AFTER ERDA HAD AGREED TO DO SO, IN WRITING, EVERY YEAR SINCE 1973. THE NEW DEPUTY MINISTER FOR INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND ELECTRIFICATION, N.A. LOPATIN, UNDERLINED TO US YESTERDAY HIS SURPRISE AND DISMAY AT THIS UNEXPECTED MOVE.

2. THE SOVIETS INDICATE THE LACK OF THIS PROMISED EQUIPMENT WILL SLOW DOWN THEIR DOMESTIC CRYOGENIC PROGRAM, WHICH THEY CONSIDER HIGHLY IMPORTANT, AND THAT THEY ARE AT A LOSS AS TO WHAT TO DO WITH THE CRYOGENIC CABLE WHICH THEY HAVE BEEN FABRICATING FOR DELIVERY TO THE U.S. IN RETURN FOR THE REFRIGERATOR. THEY ALSO DO NOT UNDERSTAND THE RATIONALE WE HAVE PUT FORTH FOR CANCELLATION, I.E., CUTBACKS IN U.S.
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PAGE 02 MOSCOW 05689 261724Z

POWER TRANSMISSION RESEARCH, AT A TIME WHEN THE PRESIDENT HAS PUT ENERGY CONSERVATION AT THE TOP OF OUR NATIONAL PRIORITIES LIST.

3. THE ENERGY AGREEMENT AND THE OTHER SPECIALIZED BILATERALS HAD THEIR GENESIS IN THE IDEA THAT, DESPITE POLITICAL DIFFERENCES, THE U.S. AND THE SOVIET UNION WOULD BE ABLE

TO BUILD MUTUAL TRUST AND CONFIDENCE THROUGH WORKING
TOGETHER IN AREAS OF HIGH CONCERN TO BOTH NATIONS. THE
ERDA DECISION RUNS COUNTER TO THIS PROPOSITION; IT NOT
ONLY OFFERS THE SOVIETS AN EXCELLENT EXCUSE FOR RENEGING
ON THEIR OBLIGATIONS UNDER THE SPECIALIZED BILATERALS BUT
GIVES AID AND COMFORT TO THOSE HERE WHO PROFESS THAT THE
UNITED STATES IS DISREGARDING COMMITMENTS MADE UNDER THE
PREVIOUS ADMINISTRATION. IT ALSO COMES AT A PARTICULARLY
INOPPORTUNE TIME, WHEN WE ARE ATTEMPTING TO ELICIT SOVIET
COOPERATION ON A BROAD RANGE OF ENERGY MATTERS BOTH BILATERALLY
AND MULTILATERALLY. I THEREFORE STRONGLY URGE ERDA TO
REVERSE ITS DECISION AND TO SUPPLY THE REFRIGERATOR AS IT HAS
SOLEMNLY AND REPEATEDLY OBLIGATED ITSELF TO DO.
TOON

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